

THE LESTER AND SALLY ENTIN FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

The duration of studies towards the B.A. is three years.

Applicants may choose a double major B.A. based on courses from two departments within the Faculty of Humanities, or their double major may include courses from a department in another faculty.

In their second year, students may enroll for single major studies in several departments on the basis of their achievements in their first year.

The departments: Archaeology, Classical Studies and Jewish History offer a single major program starting since the beginning of first year. In these cases the program is based upon combining two areas of study in the same department.

See also [School of Education](#)

Registration Requirements

- A grade of at least 450¹ on the psychometric exam.
- Matriculation certificate acceptable to the University.
- Intermediate² Level in English placement test (in the psychometric or in "Amir").

Admission Conditions

Candidates who meet the registration requirements mentioned above will be admitted to most departments.

A few departments may have higher requirements. In some cases there are special additional requirements which are specified in the chapters of the relevant departments.

1 There are two groups of candidates exempted from the psychometric exam:

a. Candidates over 40 years of age.
b. Candidates holding an Israeli "Bagrut" with an average of at least 100.

2 Except for the English Department.

DEPARTMENTS:

0631 Arabic and Islamic studies

Arabic Language and Literature – track 123 – dm

Islamic studies – track 137 – dm

A Combined Track (of the two above) – track 127 – sm

The Department of Arabic and Islamic studies offers B.A. and M.A. students a theoretical and practical knowledge of both classical and modern literary Arabic and Islamic culture. These studies also aim to acquaint students with the various historical periods of Arabic and Islamic literatures. The student studies representative Arabic works of the main literary and religious genres in relation to the relevant historical-religious background.

A combination of the two sections (Arabic language and literature with Islamic studies) is acknowledged as two majors.

The candidate's ability to understand an Arabic text will be examined in an Entrance Exam to those who choose to study in Arabic language and literature section.

Placement exams: April 9, 2006, (Gilman building, room 282) at 9.00; July 11, 2006 (Gilman building, room 282) at 9.00

0671 Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures (dm/sm)

There are two areas of study:

Archaeology of Israel and its surroundings

Archaeology – Ancient Near Eastern Cultures

The Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures deals with the archaeology, history, languages, and religions of the ancient Near East from the Stone Age to the beginning of the Middle Ages. Special emphasis is given to Biblical archaeology.

Undergraduate studies are designed to acquaint the student with the ancient civilizations of Israel, Syria, Egypt, Mesopotamia, Anatolia, the Aegean basin and the Greek and Roman world. Students are required to participate in field trips to archaeological sites and an archaeological excavation.

0672 Classical Studies (dm/sm)

There are three areas of study:

- Greek

- Latin
- Classical Civilization

The Department of Classical Studies offers courses in Greek and Latin language and literature, philosophy, art, and archaeology. The student is encouraged to become acquainted with all aspects of classical culture.

Particular stress is placed on the encounter between the Greek and Jewish cultures in the Land of Israel.

Each student is required to learn Greek and/or Latin during the first two years of study (except for those taking the Classical Civilization courses, and who read Greek and Latin authors in translation).

0687 East Asian Studies

The Department of East Asian Studies aims:

1. To offer extensive studies of the great cultures of Asia, focusing on India, China, and Japan. The courses are offered in an interdisciplinary approach: learning about the cultural elements of these Asian nations through the viewpoint of History, Religion, Philosophy, Anthropology, Society, Literature, the Arts, and the Languages.
2. To offer basic capability of reading and speaking of the major languages of Asia: Sanskrit, Hindi, Chinese (classic and modern), and Japanese (classic and modern). In the modern languages both reading and speaking capabilities are promoted.
3. to offer basic academic tools, focusing on the special cultural viewpoints of Asian cultures.

The student acquires a foundation in the various aspects of the constituents of these cultures, including their history, religions and philosophies, art, and literary traditions. The important languages of the region are taught up to the advanced level.

0626 English¹ (dm/sm)

The program of the Department of English is designed to provide students with a scholarly knowledge of English and American literature, train students in the critical use of scholarly methods of literary study, accustom students to the independent study of literary texts, and assist students in developing the ability to use

1 Applicants may be required to take an entrance exam, given by the department, in addition to the Psychometric Entrance Examination. (See the Examination Schedule).

the English language as an instrument for oral and written expression.

The language of instruction is English.

Composition courses form an integral part of the program. In addition, advanced courses and seminars are offered in the areas listed below. In most areas, students have a fairly wide choice (subject to admission limits to individual courses).

- English Literature to 1800
- English and American Literature since 1800
- Theoretical Areas in Literary Study (e.g. History and Theory of Criticism, Thematic and Generic Subjects, Comparative Literature, etc.)

To be admitted to the English Department, candidates must meet at least one of the following requirements (in addition to the general admission requirements of the University).

1. A grade of 85 in 5-units (Israeli Bagrut) and either an exemption ("Ptor") in the English Placement section of the Psychometric Entrance Exam or "Ptor" achieved in the courses given by the Foreign Languages Unit of Tel Aviv University.
2. A grade of 90 in English as the first foreign language (in the old system of Israeli Bagrut) and a "Ptor" as mentioned above (item 1).

Candidates who do not meet these requirements may choose to take the English Department entrance exam if they have one of the following:

1. Level of "Mitkadmim" in the English placement test of the Psychometric Entrance Exam or Amir exam, or in a course given by the Foreign Languages unit at Tel Aviv University.
2. Candidates who have passed the SAT with a grade of 600 or more on the verbal section.
3. Candidates who have a high school diploma from a country where the primary language of instruction is English.

The above-mentioned candidates will receive by mail a letter of permission indicating their eligibility to take the entrance examination.

The Entrance Examination will be held on:

May 12, 2006 (Gilman Building, room 281) at 9:00

August 11, 2006 (Gilman Building, room 281) at 9:00

Candidates may take this exam more than once. A candidate who does not meet one of the requirements above cannot be accepted to the English Department.

0625 French (dm/sm)

Undergraduate studies (B.A.)

Students in the French department will be acquainted with one of the principal cultures of Western Europe and acquire skills in French. Students will take classes in Culture, Literature and Linguistic in a modular bilingual program (Hebrew and French).

Students with prior knowledge of French (Level B), may study most classes in French and obtain a diploma for teaching French. **They will have to take a proficiency test in French upon their subscription to the department.** Students without prior knowledge in French (Level A), will choose classes taught in Hebrew and acquire French skills in the Foreign Languages Unit – a total of 16 semestrial hours is required.

The proficiency test will take place prior to the beginning of the school year.

No personal invitations will be sent. Students should arrive with a dictionary. Students with French or other francophone matriculation exams are exempt from the test.

The exact location of the exam will be given by the French Department secretary a week prior to the exam.

The program is bi-departmental.

Admission requirements

Bi-departmental: students have to qualify according to the general acceptance rules of the faculty.

French enhanced: first year 80 GPA or more in French and an additional department.

The French Literature program is intended for students who successfully pass the placement examination which will take place before the start of the academic year, on one of the following dates:

June 20, 2006 (Gilman Building,) at 9:00

August 8, 2006 (Gilman Building,) at 9:00

Studies towards the M.A. degree: See section in "[School of Cultural Studies](#)".

0662 General and Interdisciplinary Studies (dm)¹

This Multidisciplinary undergraduate program offers students the opportunity to develop a curriculum toward the B.A. based on a broad range of courses drawn from the Faculty of Humanities as well as from other University Departments. East Asian Studies, Women and Gender Studies, Ibero-Latin American Studies, and The Quest for Social Justice are some of the newest additions to this essentially dual-major curriculum that combines a departmental major with a second major in a multidisciplinary subject area.

The program of General and Interdisciplinary Studies has approximately 1,000 undergraduate students, each with the opportunity to plan his or her individual program of studies.

0691 Geography and Human Environment (dm/sm)²

Studies are designed to provide the student with basic knowledge of the various aspects of social and physical geography and the complexity of the human relationship with the environment.

The Department of Geography curriculum is composed of introductory courses, methodology courses, advanced courses in specialized areas of geography, seminars, regional courses, field courses, and general elective courses.

0690 Hebrew Culture Studies (dm/sm)

The department includes studies in Hebrew Culture, the Hebrew language and Semitic languages. This department is unique in its integration of fields of from among the treasures of Hebrew culture over the generations. Studies include the following academic fields:

1) Bible: Undergraduate studies are designed to: acquaint the student with the field of Biblical studies; to develop the student's ability to study the Bible analytically; to enable the student to use traditional and critical methods in the study of the Biblical books; and

1 The following departments are not to be chosen as a double major combination among themselves: General and Interdisciplinary Studies (0662), Women and Gender Studies Program (0608), The Multidisciplinary Program in the Arts (0861), Communication (1085), General Sciences in the Faculty of Exact Sciences (0311), Management (1221), or Accounting (1211).

2 Studies take place in the Yad Avner Building in Afeka.

to provide the basic knowledge necessary for choosing an area of advanced specialization.

2) Hebrew Language: The undergraduate program is designed to provide students with a scholarly knowledge of the structure of the Hebrew Language as manifested in its various historical phases and styles and to introduce them to the problems and achievements of Hebrew language research. The studies, oriented toward an awareness of modern linguistic research methods, are based on a comparative method that combines the study of cognate Semitic languages with the study of the development of the Hebrew language.

Students are advised to take one of the following as their second major: programs of Bible Studies, Talmud or Jewish Philosophy (the Department of Hebrew Culture Studies), Hebrew Literature (the Department of Literature), Jewish History, Archeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures, Arabic, Linguistics, or General Studies in the Humanities.

Admittance requirements match the general admittance policy of the Faculty of Humanities.

3) Semitic Linguistics: The program is geared to provide students with a basic knowledge of living and ancient languages and an awareness of the general research methodologies of the various schools of modern linguistics. The department aims to qualify students to research Semitic Languages by using modern linguistic tools.

4) Jewish Philosophy: An historical and thematic approach to the beliefs and ideas of Judaism from the post-Biblical period through the modern era provides students with a rich experience in Jewish thought and history. The ability of students to read the texts in their original language enhances their understanding of the development of Jewish thought and the struggle for Jewish identity throughout the ages.

The curriculum is divided into three sections:

- a. Jewish thought in the formative period of Mishnah and the Talmud.
- b. Jewish Medieval Philosophy (9th to 16th centuries).
- c. Modern Jewish thought (17th to 21st centuries)

5) Kabbalah and Hasidism: The study of mystical trends in Judaism before the rise of the Kabbalah, its formation and development, the Book of the Zohar, its composition and development, the Kabbalah of Safed and its influence on Judaism, the emergence of

Sabbataianism, the development, trends and methods of Hasidism, and central topics in Kabbalist literature such as: Kabbalistic theosophy, the development of mystical thought and its religious-philosophical significance, the question of evil, man and his place in the world, the soul and its transmigration.

6) Talmud and Literature of the Second Temple Period: The Talmud studies offers two parallel tracks of study to accommodate both students who have an extensive background in Talmud and those who don't. The purpose of the program is to provide the skills required for independent and critical study of the classical sources of Talmudic literature, both legal and aggadic material, as well as the compositions of the Gaonic and Rabbinic periods. (Special areas of advanced studies include Geniza research).

0621 History (dm/sm)

The Department of General History focuses on the history of Western Civilization. Courses are divided into four principal sections: ancient history, medieval history, early-modern history, and contemporary history, the latter comprising four geographical subdivisions (Western and Central Europe, Russia and Eastern Europe, North America, and Latin America). Students may convert their history studies into a single-major program at the end of the first year after attaining an average of 85.

0677 Jewish History (dm/sm)

The Jewish History Department offers a wide range of courses dealing with the History of the Jewish people in its land and Diasporas from the dawn of history to the 21 century.

There are two different programs an undergraduate student can choose:

1. Double Major: Studying in two departments: Jewish History and another department.
2. Single Major Program: Students may convert their History studies into a single major program at the end of the first year after attaining an average grade of 85 in the department and average grade of 80 in the other department.

Courses offered by the Department begin with the biblical era, three thousand years ago, when Jewish nationality and culture were created in the world of the ancient Near East. They continue with a study of the period of the Second Temple and the Talmudic period,

when the Jewish people lived in the Land of Israel, while at the same time new and influential centers of Jewish life took shape in the Diaspora. From this point Jewish life developed across a broad geographical orbit. Jews lived in the Land of Israel under rulers that changed frequently, while at the same time there emerged a Jewish Diaspora that reached all corners of the known world, molding the historical image of the Jewish people until our own day.

In addition to the study of history, the Department provides its students with the critical tools and the intellectual perspective necessary to understand events and historical processes, ideological movements and spiritual achievements that characterize Jewish life from its formation to the present day.

0627 Linguistics (dm/sm)

The Linguistics Department's B.A. program focuses on theories of natural language (human languages), and specifically, on theories that provide explanatory accounts for humans' knowledge of language as it is manifested in a wide variety of linguistic phenomena. The fundamental assumption is that natural languages are governed by universal principles.

Linguists investigate natural language phenomena with the aim to determine the universal principles that underlie human linguistic competence. The various sub-domains of language investigated are: sentence structure (syntax), the structure of words (morphology), speech sounds (phonetics), the system of speech sounds and their patterning (phonology), the meaning of linguistic expressions (semantics), the use of language in context for various communicative purposes (pragmatics and discourse analysis), the historical changes that languages undergo over time (historical linguistics), the psychological/cognitive factors involved in production and perception of linguistic expressions (psycholinguistics), and the acquisition of language by children (language acquisition).

Linguistic research offers theoretical models of the human language faculty in its various manifestations. As such, it occupies a central place in the domain of cognitive science.

Goals of the program

The Linguistics Department provides crucial knowledge for students intending to specialize in professions dealing with language, such as artificial intelligence, communication, clinical aspects of language (language

and communication disorders), language teaching, literature, translation, etc.

The professional literature is written in English. Also some of the courses (among them some obligatory ones) are taught in English.

0680 Literature (dm/sm)

Poetics (Theory of Literature), Hebrew Literature, Comparative Literature, Professions of Literary Writing

The newly established **Literature Department** unites the former Departments of *Hebrew Literature* and *Poetics and Comparative Literature*.

The various study tracks offered in the Literature Department provide a comprehensive selection of courses in literary theories; in approaches to literary critical methods; in Hebrew literature and culture over its long history, concentrating on the modern period with a special focus on contemporary Israeli literature; and in major trends, genres and exemplary works of world literature. Students will develop interpretative, analytical and critical skills regarding literary texts, and the writing tracks will develop creative writing skills, literary editing and translating proficiency.

The curriculum of the Literature Department includes (1) core courses, which are mandatory for all tracks; (2) an elected track.

Core courses for all tracks include: Introduction to Narrative; Introduction to Poetry; Introduction to Literary Theory; Introduction to Modern Hebrew Literature; Prosody; Canonic novels.

The tracks offered are:

1. Hebrew Literature & Israeli Culture
2. Poetics & Comparative Literature
3. Combined track (of the two above)
4. Professions of Literary Writing – one of three clusters:
 - a. Creative Writing
 - b. Literary Editing & Criticism (starting only on second year)
 - c. Literary Translation

Candidates whose education was not in Hebrew **must** attain **exemption level on the Hebrew Proficiency exam before** beginning their studies.

Graduate studies are offered both with or without an M.A. dissertation.

0608 NCJW Women and Gender Studies Program (dm)¹

This Program combines studies from 4 faculties: Humanities, Law, Social Sciences, Arts. The Program offers a comprehensive multidisciplinary study of women's history, sociology, representation in the arts, position vis-à-vis cultural and political institutions, as well as other aspects of women's lives and experiences. The Program also specializes in classical and contemporary feminist theories. Students participate in mandatory core courses and in four concentration clusters, with a wide choice of elective courses from many associated departments: History and Jewish History, Art History, Sociology & Anthropology, Philosophy, Cultural Studies, Law, Social Work, Literature and Comp. Lit., Cinematography, English – and many more.

Women and Gender Studies examine the experience of women (historical, social, political, sexual, and artistic) and the issue of gender (woman/man) as the subject of their research, and as the lens for re-examining theories in the humanities, social sciences and the arts, as well as other disciplines, with special attention to Jewish and Israeli studies.

At the base of feminist and gender theory and research stands the understanding that the “feminine” and the “masculine” as they are known and presented in society, are not a necessary consequence of biological-essential structure and difference, but rather a consequence of changing social, political, and cultural structures and of changing ideological needs. Women and Gender Studies aim to describe and to understand these structures, the ways in which they change and the policies and needs/interests at their base. The cultural concept of pluralism too undergoes a change in gender-informed reading. These issues also give rise to the general interest of research in various minorities and in the concept of minority, marginalism, and "the history of the conquered," in relation to ethnic, national, racial, religious, and global minorities.

The degree offered is “B.A. in Women and Gender

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Studies”.

National Council of Jewish Women (USA) endowed this Program and offers its students several scholarships.

For a detailed course of studies in the Program see our website:

<http://www.tau.ac.il/humanities/ncjw>

The courses for 2006/2007 will be posted on the website as of September 2006.

0622 Middle Eastern and African History (dm/sm)

On both the undergraduate and graduate levels, the Department of Middle Eastern and African History offers a variety of courses dealing with the history of the Middle East since the advent of Islam. Special emphasis is placed on the modern history of the Middle East and Africa. The program aims to acquaint students with the cultures, socio-political structures, and languages of these regions.

Students are required to learn Arabic on an advanced level and are offered courses in Turkish and Persian. All second year students of the department are eligible for enrollment in the high school history teachers program. Various scholarships are offered to the department's students.

Research track for outstanding students: Admission to the research track depends on high grades in the Psychology external.

Students may convert their Middle Eastern and African studies into a single-major program at the end of the first year after attaining an average of 85.

The tracks offered are:

- Double major B.A.
- Single major B.A.
- Research track for outstanding students (d/m) – track no. 302
- Research track for outstanding students (s/m) – track no. 301

0618 Philosophy (dm/sm)

The Philosophy Department introduces students to basic concepts, methodologies, and areas of study in philosophy.

The department's curriculum is composed of three sections.

Section A: Introductory Courses (compulsory):

- Introduction to Modern Philosophy
- Introduction to Greek Philosophy
- Introduction to 19th-20th century Philosophy
- Introduction to Logic
- Readings in philosophical texts

Section B: Introductory and advanced courses in the following areas:

- Philosophy of Science and Digital Culture
- Epistemology and Metaphysics
- Philosophy of Language and Logic
- Philosophy of Religion
- Eastern Philosophy
- Ethics and Political Philosophy
- Aesthetics.

Section C: General elective courses in various areas of study.

Outstanding students may major in intensive philosophy studies (sm) beginning in their second year (after completing one full year in two departments).

School of Education

<http://www.tau.ac.il/education>

The B.A. programs of the School of Education provide students with basic concepts and a broad background in the educational sciences.

B.A. level studies do not provide professional training, nor do they qualify students for a Teaching Certificate or other professional diplomas.

Plan ahead! Students who wish to pursue their studies in the Educational Counseling or Special Educational programs should realize they need a Teaching Certificate in order to practice. They are, therefore, advised to choose as a second major a subject which is taught in secondary schools.

Applicants may not choose two majors in the School of Education

0721 Human Development in Education

The B.A. program in Human Development in Education (dm) is divided into four areas of study. The candidate should specify the area in his application form:

- (101) Educational Counseling
- (102) Educational Counseling in Early Childhood
- (103) Special Education
- (104) Education of Children with Hearing Impairment

The first two years of study in Educational Counseling, Educational Counseling in Early Childhood, and Special Education follow the same track. In the third year, students take core courses specific to their area of studies.

In the area of Education of Children with Hearing Impairment, students begin their specialization in their chosen field during the second year of studies.